In the power Ministers'/Chief Ministers' Conference held in October/ December, 1996, the Common Minimum National Action Plan was adopted which *inter-alia* including Compulsory metering of all new electricity connections as also connections to the agriculture sector exceeding 10 HP will be undertaken and completed in two years.

The States Electricity Board's/State Power Utilities are implementing the metering programme in a phased manner. Under Phase-I of the programme, meters are being installed in all 11 KV feeders and distribution transformers. Under Phase-II of the programme, meters are proposed to be installed for all consumers.

Non payment by UPVB and DVB to NTPC

†3281. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Uttar Pradesh Vidyut Board and Delhi Vidyut Board have not been able to make payment to the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) on time;

(b) if so, whether NTPC can reduce the supply of power to Uttar Pradesh Vidyut Board and Delhi Vidyut Board; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In terms of the Bulk Power Supply Agreement signed by Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Ltd. (UPPCL), NTPC and Delhi Vidyut Board (DVB) with National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd. (NTPC) is empowered to regulate power supply to UPPCL and DVB in case of default in payment of its bills.

(c) UPPCL has been defaulting in making payments to NTPC despite repeated requests and discussions at the highest level in UPPCL and Govt. of U.P. The payments made by UPPCL have been inadequate as can be seen from the following table:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(Rs. Crores)

Months	Billing	Realisation	Shortfall
April'01	266.56	130.35	136.21
May'01	256.17	100.00	156.17
June'01	253.67	131.01	122.66
July'01	280.94	150.64	130.30
TOTAL :	1057.34	512.00	545.34

It can be seen from the above that during April to July, 2001 UPPCL has paid only 48.4% of the amount billed by NTPC. As a result the outstanding dues of UPPCL have mounted to Rs. 3430.84 crores including surcharge of Rs.844.16 crs. as on 31.7.2001.

NTPC has requested UPPCL to take the following actions by 15.8.2001.

(i) To re-establish and enhance LCs from Rs. 120 crores to Rs. 259 crores.

(ii) To pay monthly bills in full.

(iii) To pay shortfall of Rs. 545.34 crores accumulated between April and July, 2001.

(iv) To issue regular bonds in place of Promissory Note issued for Rs. 1809.03 crores. DVB is not paying NTPC bills in full. The payments by DVB are detailed below:

(Rs. Crores)

Months	Billing	Realisation	Shortfall
April'01	107.57	102.80	4.77
May'01	161.09	116.00	45.09
June'01	171.53	116.00	55.53
July'01	157.59	148.28	9.31
TOTAL :	597.78	483.08	114.70

NTPC's outstanding dues against DVB has reached Rs. 3141.04 crores including surcharge of Rs. 1580.50 as on 31.07.2001.

NTPC is constantly pursuing with DVB for ensuring full payment of current dues. NTPC may resort to regulation of power supply on DVB if payment position does not improve.